

Message Text

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21

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 ISO-00 L-03 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

SP-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 GSA-02 DRC-01 /104 W

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R 260625Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 364

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, EPRD

SUBJ: COPPER: JAPANESE DISPOSAL PROGRAM

REF: STATE 134024

1. US OBSERVER AT CIPEC CONFERENCE DISCUSSED SUBSTANCE OF REFTTEL WITH JAPANESE OBSERVER TEAM, INCLUDING HEAD OF JAPAN METAL CENTER IN LONDON. THEY WERE UNAWARE OF JAPANESE INQUIRY ABOUT US CONSULTATION PROCEDURES, BUT CONFIRMED THAT JAPANESE COPPER SMELTERS HAVE SURPLUS PRODUCTION WHICH THEY MUST SELL ABROAD. THEY SAID THAT ABOUT 80,000 ST HAVE ALREADY BEEN SOLD TO THE PRC, BUYERS IN THE US AND PHILIPPINES AND ON THE LME. JAPANESE EMBASSY LUSAKA HAS ALREADY CONSULTED WITH ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT. LATTER WAS QUOTE NOT HAPPY UNQUOTE BUT RECOGNIZED INEVITABILITY OF JAPANESE SALES UNDER EXISTING CIRCUMSTANCES.

2. IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE IN US AND JAPANESE SITUATION IS THAT GSA STOCKPILE DISPOSALSS, ESPECIALLY IF CIRCUMSCRIBED AS TO EXPORTABILITY, INVOLVES ONLY EXPANSION OF US SUPPLY ALREADY LARGELY FED BY DOMESTIC PRODUCTION. JAPAN IS INVADING FOREIGN MARKETS TRADITIONALLY SUPPLIED BY OTHER PRODUCERS; CONSULTATION IS COMPLICATED BY FACT THAT

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QUOTE INJURED PARTY UNQUOTE MAY VARY WITH EACH

POTENTIAL CUSTOMER.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION WHETHER GOJ WOULD NOT WANT
TO STOCKPILE COPPER FOR EVENTUAL SALE IF POSSIBLE CIPEC
AGREEMENT ON PRICES AND CONTROLLED MARKETING SHOULD PUSH
PRICE UP, THEY SAID THAT JAPANESE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS
AND STOCKPILING COSTS MADE IMMEDIATE SALE DESIRABLE.
WILKOWSKI

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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